



U.S. Department of Justice

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MASSACHUSETTS MAN CHARGED WITH BANK ROBBERY

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Special Agent in Charge of the Boston Field Office of the FBI Kenneth W. Kaiser, and Stratham Police Chief Michael Daley, today announced that Joseph Thibault 32, of Barrington, New Hampshire, and West Boylston, Massachusetts, pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire to eight counts of bank robbery. A sentencing hearing will be held on January 27, 2005. Thibault faces a statutory maximum sentence of 20 years on each robbery.

Thibault was arrested on July 2, 2004, in West Boylston, Massachusetts. Thibault pleaded guilty to robbing the Citizens Bank, Route 108, Stratham, New Hampshire on June 22, 2004, the Southbridge Savings Bank in Worcester, Massachusetts on November 17, 2003 and again on June 11, 2004, the Citizens Bank in Smithfield, Rhode Island on March 5, 2004, the Ocean National Bank in Plaistow, New Hampshire on December 11, 2003, the Citizens Bank in Worcester, Massachusetts on June 14, 2003, and the Millbury Credit Union in Worcester, Massachusetts on May 24, 2003. Thibault agreed to have all the charges addressed in a single proceeding in New Hampshire.

United States Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: "This case is an excellent example of the results that can be achieved when federal and local law enforcement agencies work closely together. Shortly after the June 22, 2004, robbery of the Citizens Bank in Stratham, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Stratham Police Department joined forces to gather the evidence that ultimately identified the defendant as the person who committed that robbery. Their cooperative efforts resulted in the resolution of seven additional bank robberies that were committed over a 15 month period. I thank the FBI and the Stratham Police Department for their professionalism and dedication to getting the job done."

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Don Feith.